

MUFORG

BULLETIN

December 1966

C O M M E N T

At the recent BUFORA Congress at Cambridge there was some discussion of the problem of investigators who become emotionally involved with the witnesses whose stories they investigate, with the result that they come to believe their stories without demanding objective proof.

All UFO erudites will realize that this psychological phenomenon, which applies particularly to contact stories, is a serious obstacle to objective research. The problem is to decide what to do about this. The answer, of course, is for serious UFO groups to ensure that contact cases are investigated by reliable people.

Where are we to find these reliable investigators? We are hardly likely to find them within the ranks of ufologists. We must, therefore, attempt to enlist the aid of people who know little about the subject, but have experience of extracting the truth from witnesses, who are unlikely to be easily fooled and who have plenty of spare time at their disposal.

Does anybody know of any retired C.I.D. men who do not believe in flying saucers?

RECENT NORTH WEST REPORTS

Netherton, Lancashire

October 19th, 1966

The U.F.O. was seen at about 20.00 BST, for about five minutes, by two schoolboys. The object was a brilliant white, oval shape and had sharp outlines. The object moved from NW to NE while under observation. The sky was clear except for some scattered cloud. The witnesses claimed to have seen a similar object, at the same place, on two previous occasions. The size of the object was compared to that of a pea at arm's length.

(Investigated by Stephen Davies)

Netherton, Lancashire

October 24th, 1966

Two objects were seen on this occasion, again by two schoolboys, one of whom was a witness to the sighting described above. The time was 15.15 BST and the objects were in view for

about 20 minutes. The size of the objects was compared to that of a pin-head at arm's length. One object was seen at first, then another. They had a silvery, metallic appearance, but had blurred outlines. They were moving slowly SE. . Three jet planes appeared, travelling NE. As they passed the UFOs, one object moved towards the other. The objects eventually disappeared behind a large cloud. The surface wind was light, SE.

(Investigated by Stephen Davies)

Northwich, Cheshire

December 3rd, 1966

The witness, Mr Harry Jones, was driving home from Trafford Park, Manchester, where he is a works manager, to Northwich, when he saw a triangular, glowing shape travelling in the air immediately in front of his car.

He was travelling at about 50 m.p.h. and the object seemed to be keeping an even distance in front of him. Then it suddenly swung away but returned and cut across the front of his car. After a short time it veered away and disappeared.

Northwich police investigated, but could offer no explanation.

(Liverpool Daily Post 5/12/66)

Meteorite? On December 4th, at 20.20 GMT, many witnesses reported a brilliant flash over the Irish Sea. Formby Coastguard Station reported: "It was like a shower of white sparks which vividly illuminated the sky for two to three seconds." The phenomenon was generally thought to have been a meteor.

(Liverpool Daily Post 5/12/66)

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BUFORA CONGRESS

----- Cambridge October 22nd, 1966

The Congress was organized by the Cambridge University Group for the Investigation of UFOs (CUGIUFO). The afternoon session was presided over by Dr G.Doel, Chairman of BUFORA.

Mr S.A.Miller (CUGIUFO) gave an account of his painstaking research into historical UFO reports. He was followed by Mr A.C.H. Durham, whose theme was scientific UFO research. Mr Durham raised several interesting points. He said that the practice of CUGIUFO, when investigating sightings, was to interview the witnesses if possible. Otherwise they write to the witnesses, asking them to describe the sightings in their own words. CUGIUFO finds this method preferable to the use of printed forms.

Mr Durham stressed the need for a genuinely scientific journal dealing with UFO investigation and research. Terminology should be clarified and investigation techniques improved. Ufologists should take steps to improve their knowledge of unusual natural phenomena.

He was followed by Mr J.M.Crabtree, Chairman of CUGIUFO, dealing with the same theme. Mr Crabtree was particularly scathing about unscientific approaches to the subject and vague "so-called theories", resulting in bad publicity, discouraging suitably qualified people from taking an interest in the subject. In this connection he singled out for special mention Mr Leonard Cramp and his book, "Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer." (This was to have an interesting sequel at the BUFORA Annual General Meeting.)

Mr Crabtree went on to insist that "tripe" must be eradicated from UFO research and that there should be more use of instruments, such as magnetic detectors etc. He ended by emphasizing that the theme of the Congress was the scientific investigation of UFOs.

Mr C.M.Sinton (CUGIUFO) followed with a fascinating illustrated talk on UFO photographs. He showed how easy it was to fake UFO photographs, but also that some classic pictures have not been exposed as fakes, despite the efforts of various experts. He made the interesting suggestion that some of Adamski's photographs and the Darbishire photographs were genuine, and that Adamski made

up his stories after seeing and photographing a genuine UFO.

Unfortunately the main speaker, Dr R.L.Gregory, of the Department of Experimental Psychology at Cambridge University, did not have much time in which to develop his theme. Nevertheless he managed to show us how seeing depends as much on the brain as on the eye and how the brain can be fooled when the eye is presented with inadequate or incompatible information.

After dinner, talks and discussions were held on the subjects of electronic detection equipment and the investigation of UFO sightings.

The Cambridge Congress did not get much publicity. The reason, we later learned, was because reporters could not find any cranks or crackpots to interview. They either stayed away or were overawed by their surroundings.

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COMMENTS ON THE B.U.F.O.R.A. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

by R.D.Hughes

The meeting was opened by Mr G.Creighton who, in his address, stated that he thought the next years of British ufology would be a long grind up to the solution in X years time of the UFO problem. I am inclined, in part, to agree with him as, at present, there are three ways of approaching this subject:-

(a) Serious, scientific UFO research, which is based on hypotheses and their proof, and preparing to carry setbacks at considerable cost to achieve either a positive or negative result.

(b) Catalogues of types, flight paths and numbers of such, in order to achieve - ?

(c) Believing everything written in books or uttered by various "authorities" on the subject.

The first method is, for many people, rather dull, but most people not actively engaged in this form of research still find the results rather interesting. The second method, practised by BUFORA, is probably that to which Mr Creighton referred. The last method is probably very entertaining, but does not lead anywhere. I prefer not to lump contactee information with general research, as only by general research can the necessary background information be achieved to verify the stories.

In general, BUFORA's years ahead may be rather dull, but they base a great deal of their work on amateurish ideas and methods instead of a professional approach using a proper scientific method and good equipment for quantitative and qualitative measurement. I suggest that they should discourage such practices as selling diffraction gratings at three times their market price, or detectors, however good, unless they are combined with adequate support equipment.

I entirely agree with Mr Creighton's remarks that too many people are attempting to pressure the governments of countries into releasing their files on UFOs or demanding from them some action by way of research into the subject. If any government were to accept the fact that UFOs exist it would immediately lose the confidence of its electorate because it would be agreeing that something can fly over its airspace and possibly deliver nuclear weapons, apparently unopposed, thus making a mockery of the enormous amount of money and effort devoted to defence. As far as UFO groups are concerned, those who so annoy the governments will, in times such as these, leave themselves open to being called enemies of the state under a clause in the "Treasonable Offences Act," dealing with the morale of H.M. people.

The skywatch at Warminster was rather unsuccessful. The only spectacular and very unexpected event being Dr Cleary-Baker sitting in a mystic triangle of lights all night for some unexplained reason.

A great controversy raged over the future of the BUFORA Journal. It was proposed that either 2 Journals and several news sheets be issued or 4 Journals and additional news-sheets be issued. Dr Cleary-Baker defended the Journal in the following manner:-

Dr J.Cleary-Baker: The Journal is a forum for ideas and keeps members of other groups informed of latest events.

Chorus: Hooray!

J.C-B.: The science of today is not necessarily the science which is acceptable to ufologists.

Chorus: Hooray! Ba-a!

J.C-B.: We should keep the Journal as a valuable source of information for posterity.

Chorus: Ba-a! Ba-a! (as in sheep)

And thus nothing was settled.

Another unsettled matter was that of the Vice-President, Mr L.Cramp. He has apparently not attended many BUFORA meetings and did not attend the A.G.M. Whether or not to have two or more vice-presidents was left in the air until the next A.G.M.

The talks and reports were for the most part long and boring, but an interesting talk was given by Mr Norman Oliver on a contact story involving a claim to have proof of Mantell's fatal encounter with a UFO.

On the whole the A.G.M. was a rather dismal affair and retrogressive from other A.G.M.'s in that it offered nothing positive in decisions. Reports and talks were, with one exception, uninformative and dull. When such a gathering of BUFORA members and affiliated groups from many parts of the country is assembled, I imagine that they expect a more interesting programme than G.N.P. Stephenson droning on about lights in the sky for far too long, or Brinsley Le Poer Trench's Sky Scouts mumbling about Mr Shuttlewood's "space stations."

B.U.F.O.R.... BORES

by Paul Hopkins

NEVER before have I been so utterly and miserably bored by a flying saucer meeting as I was at the last BUFORA A.G.M.

All my impressions of what BUFORA would be like have been dashed to the ground by the very hand that placed them there.

I entered the large building and found myself in a warm and futuristic atmosphere. The building was well-lit, clean and the carpet soft under foot. This was really going to be an experience I would not forget. Somewhere in this vast building were the cream, yea! even the brains behind the mysterious world of ufology and I was going to see them.

I descended into the bowels of the building and paid three shillings at a desk, which entitled me to temporary membership of BUFORA - for one day! BIG DEAL. Why not just an admission ticket and why this ridiculous ritual of writing your name and address in the book before being issued with a ticket? Are we creeps or something? Or perhaps they were hoping to pinpoint a few spacemen that walk about disguised as earthmen. Can you imagine it? If not, read on:

"Will you please write your name and address here, sir."

"I can't."

"Why not?"

"I can't write."

"You can't write?"

"No, you see, I am Adamski, reincarnated as a Venusian and what's more, to prove it, I have a nut and bolt from Mantell's Mustang."

"You liar!" another voice may well retort. "I am Adamski, I have his boots to prove it." An all-in fight develops and the vision departs from my tortured mind.

I found myself a comfortable cinema-type seat in the spacious lecture hall and the meeting began with a few odds and ends. Then we had the report of the year's flying saucers and what a year it was! The lecturer rambled on, and on, and on. Green ones, blue ones, orange ones, ones with knobs stuck on. Square windows, round windows, blinking lights and the blinking lot.

What a relief when he finished! I personally would have rather read from the telephone directory, at least it would have been far more interesting.

Next, a gentleman took the platform and reported on his investigations into a contact claim and also took the chance to plug the book he was helping to write, which I thought was most distasteful indeed. Never mind, to continue with the show ---

A youngish chap scuttles onto the platform. He looks rather odd! Now why? Ah! I see, he has a pair of wings in his buttonhole. A pair of wings? Gad sir! He must be a Venusian. What did he say he was? A Sky Scout? Is that all? Well, as long as he doesn't bore us with a long list of Oh no! Spare us, please! We are condemned to another long list of mysterious lights (or pies) in the sky. Oh what a shame he had a skywatch before he came to talk about his society.

That badge! Never, ever, in my life have I seen such a ridiculous, top-heavy looking piece of ironmongery. One thing stood out - the list of sightings was as much use to us in its presented form as a peanut is to an elephant.

The only part of the meeting that aroused any interest in my disillusioned soul was the business that concerned the revolutionary UFO detector, which apparently not only detects UFOs but, guess what --- You were right! R-I-D-I-C-U-L-O-U-S. Isn't it time for Dr Who's entrance?

Disappointment again -- Brinsley Le Poer Trench happened to be in the audience. Still, he is the man I have most wanted to meet after Mickey Mouse, so I didn't go home too disillusioned.

For goodness' sake, BUFORA! -- pull your socks up. You can surely do better than this, especially when people come from such vast distances just to attend your meeting.

Little wonder a large number of the audience end up in the "Adam and Eve." I ended up by travelling in the wrong orbit on the tube.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Dr J. CLEARY-BAKER - Editor of BUFORA Journal

Dear Mr Harney,

I don't think I can be described as credulous or as a person likely to be deceived by childish tricks or imposed upon by anyone with a strong personality. I hope, therefore, that you will attach some little weight to my repudiation of your attack on Mr Shuttlewood in the October issue of MUFORG Bulletin.

Arthur has always been most helpful to me and to all members of BUFORA investigating the Warminster phenomena but he has never sought to "muscle-in" on any incidental publicity and in fact, during "Warminster Week," went out of his way to avoid so-doing. I made a few private investigations before I ever met him and can tell you that he is well regarded in various responsible quarters. These facts hardly comport with your picture of a shady confidence-trickster in search of cash or notoriety.

Cradle Hill - I wish various publications, including yours, would learn to spell "Cradle" correctly, by the way - is on the edge of the slice of Salisbury Plain appropriated to the use of the Military and only six miles from the derelict village of Inber, reputed scene of various hush-hush experiments. Apart from this, we have on the plain the Biological Warfare Centre at Porton and the rocket-range at Larkhill. It does not seem unlikely that an alien source surveying human activities would be interested in the Plain. Such an alien source might well "anchor" a large UFO above it and make frequent checks with the aid of remote-controlled scanners.

Most of Arthur's 288 UFOs have been what I call "UFO-lights," i.e. starlike objects, resembling the R "Foo-fighters" of World War Two and probably identical with them. I suggest the continual appearance of such UFO-lights over Cradle Hill need not occasion too much surprise on the hypothesis outlined above. I may add that I have myself witnessed a few examples of these UFO-lights, changing course, speed and brightness while under observation. If you think I don't know a satellite when I see one, or that I could be fooled by silly tricks with stars and satellites, I suggest you

apply instantly to BUFORA to get me removed as Editor of the 'Journal' on grounds of incompetence!

Incidentally, I recently witnessed an excellent example of a UFO-light from Cradle Hill, at an hour of the morning when Arthur was, I presume, home in bed in Warminster. He MAY have been ensconced behind the hedge making mesmeric passes to befuddle my companion and myself, or he MAY have been up in a balloon with a torch and evil intentions - but I don't think you will seriously entertain either possibility!

To deal briefly with your other points. Arthur came to the Bradford Conference at considerable expense and trouble to himself. It seemed to me that the audience enjoyed his address, even if many may not have agreed altogether with the interpretations placed on certain things.

There are tales current in the Warminster area of individuals falling under moving vehicles and emerging unhurt. Arthur did not invent these. His interpretation may be "way off" for all I know, but the stories themselves are a fact.

I know of no reason to doubt that Arthur did receive mysterious 'phone calls saying the things he relates. I don't know whether the calls were from extraterrestrials or from mischievous undergrads on the spree. That is not the point at issue.

Perhaps I have said enough to suggest that you have presented only one side of the story as regards Warminster. There IS another side. It seems to me that investigation is needed here, not attempted character-assassination, which is what your article amounts to insofar as it concerns itself with Mr Shuttlewood.

The above represents my personal reaction to your attack on Arthur Shuttlewood. I don't know what the wider reaction within BUFORA - if any - may be. ----- J.Cleary-Baker, Ph.D., 3 Devenish Road, Wexham, Winchester, Hants.

From Mr TREVOR WHITAKER - Hon. Secretary, Halifax Branch of BUFORA

Dear Mr Harney,

I feel that you have been rather hard on Arthur Shuttlewood in the October issue of MUFORG Bulletin. Perhaps he is mistaken with regard to many of his sightings and perhaps he is a little naive in some of his views, but he does admit to having no background to the subject and only recently reading any of the literature on UFOs. In private conversation with him before the Bradford Conference we gained the impression that he was a genuine sort of person who firmly believed the ideas and events he described. In some cases, his evidence, not mentioned during his lecture, is quite strong. I am unable to accept that his stories have been invented to make money. He cannot make much from his book and he refused a fee or refund of his travelling expenses for his visit to Bradford. Not the action of one setting out to make money.

In closing may I thank you for your kind comments about my members' efforts in organizing the Bradford Conference. We were most grateful and encouraged by the support we received from the Northern Societies and from the B.U.F.O.R.A. Executive Committee. We all enjoyed doing it very much and look forward to the future when we may be asked to organize another similar event. -- Mr T. Whitaker, 253 Huddersfield Road, Halifax, Yorkshire.

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American UFO Investigation The director of the now-famous official UFO investigation, based on the University of Colorado, Dr Edward Condon, recently told a reporter:

"None of us had anything to do with UFOs before--I think that's why we were chosen. We are just getting started and are like first-year students. I am trying to see what is involved and to get into the whole subject."

The U.S. Air Force has turned over all its files on UFOs. At Boulder, the scientists are always on the alert, ready to fly out to investigate reports of "interesting" sightings in the country.

(Sunday Express 4/12/66)

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MOONLIGHT AT WARMINSTER

by ALAN W. SHARP

To any British investigator of UFO phenomena the little town of Warminster nestling below rolling chalk hills on the edge of Salisbury Plain holds a fascination second to none, and after learning from Mr Arthur Shuttlewood that sightings could be made on any clear night, your investigator determined to visit the place again at the earliest opportunity.

So it was that shortly after dusk on Tuesday, November 1st, 1966, a small car, loaded with paraphernalia and with myself at the wheel, approached the town from the direction of Frome, some eight miles distant to the West, on what promised to be a perfect night for observation.

The moon had just begun to rise and the planet Saturn was visible in the sky to the south as the main street came into sight and with it the house which had been recommended as a base for operations and where a top-floor room was immediately secured having an excellent view of the surrounding hills in the direction where the anticipated events were expected to occur.

A key to the premises was obtained and the task of moving a carload of impedimenta was completed, but not before clouds had begun to obscure the sky in ever increasing amounts until eventually even the moon was hidden and a thin drizzle began to fall.

However, as the best time for seeing strange things had been put at around 4 a.m. not too much notice was taken of the weather and the writer retired to bed unwontedly early after setting the alarm for 3 a.m. and making suitable preparations for a sortie at that hour.

Promptly at three the peace was shattered and your observer staggered to the window to find everywhere bathed in moonlight with the last of the clouds moving quickly away to the south. Needless to say the streets appeared deserted and the car started without any difficulties due to ignition failure. Evidently I was at last to be allowed to make a move in the right direction, though subsequent events might make the return journey less easy.

Proceeding up the main street, the Westbury road was taken as far as the signpost pointing towards the West Wilts. Golf Club, where a right turn was made up the long hill leading to the Imber Ranges.

Driving up the narrow road with headlights out, half expecting to meet some apparition from another world, I felt a distinct sense of uneasiness as the lights of the town were left behind and the moon's ghostly radiance became virtually the only source of illumination, until suddenly a cluster of bright lights sprang out on the hilltop to the left.

I stopped the car and felt a tinge of fear as I opened the door and stepped onto the road, fingers fumbling with the binocular case.

What could those lights be at such an hour? Curiously I raised the glasses and focussed on the hill. A din shape was revealed but, disappointingly, seemed to bear more resemblance to a house than to a space-craft. I determined to investigate further on the way back, but the incident left a heightened feeling of unreality as the journey was resumed.

Then, as the road began to level out I was amazed to find the way barred by a white iron gate where on a previous visit there had been no obstruction. The unexpected event was not reassuring and as I stepped out of the car for the second time I realized that it would now be necessary to complete the last half mile on foot.

A chill wind was blowing and, as I collected camera and binoculars, a bright meteor flashed overhead from the direction of the moon. The time was 3.40 a.m. and the omens appeared auspicious for some unusual event. I hoped I should not regret having dared to scoff at the possibility of extraterrestrial activities at Warminster and felt a keen sense of loneliness as I looked back at my car, forlorn and desolate in this strange place.

I had half expected to meet some other humans out here on the UFO quest and every roadside shadow took on a strange form as I

trudged up the hill, occasionally looking backward in apprehension of being stalked by the unknown.

However, no beings materialised and eventually the shape of the guard house came into view with the barrier for some unaccountable reason raised into the open position. Was this some sinister invitation to enter?

The planets Mars and Jupiter looked down in silent scrutiny as I shone a torch inside the building but there was no-one in occupation. The muted roar of the wind in a nearby copse and its whistling round the hood of my anorak were sufficient to drown most other noises, I reflected as I peered round the hut into the forbidden territory, to see to my apprehension what appeared to be a crowd of formless black shapes a hundred or so yards away and an indistinct, saucer-shaped ~~xxxxx~~ white patch reflecting the moonlight slightly to the right, whilst the distant glow of some reflected light enhanced the eeriness of the situation.

I determined to press on, come what night, and gingerly eased round the barrier onto the concrete apron.

To my surprise the dark shapes materialized into the forms of wrecked cars and I clambered onto one of them for a better look round.

The reflected light seemed to come from a naked bulb somewhere out on the range and the white shape was in fact a long mound of chalk bulldozed out of the hillside to create what appeared to be a refuse pit of some description.

Then I saw a faint yellow light glide across the sky at a low elevation from east to west and I focussed the binoculars on it as it passed close to the star Deneb, almost due north in the constellation Cygnus. A pulsating red light could now be seen and a faint drone was borne on the wind above the nearer sounds. The object was evidently an aeroplane bound for some unknown destination, possibly Bristol. The time, 4.10 a.m.

Cold but reassured I returned to ground level and continued my reconnaissance, but without meeting anything further out of the ordinary.

I looked at Jupiter to pass the time. Two of the Galilean satellites were visible close to the planet. Nothing unusual there.

No clouds, either, to be investigated, so at five-thirty I began to walk downhill to the car which I was relieved to find still where I had left it and without any sinister occupants waiting to escort me to an exciting rendezvous.

A quick cup of hot tea and I was on my way back to Warminster, though not without first finding the origin of the mysterious lights. It was the Golf Club-house, strategically situated, I thought, for UFO observation, though why the outside lights should be on remained a mystery. Perhaps the members liked to play by moonlight. Or did they?

Arrived in Warminster, I surprised an early milk roundsman and made two purchases. He seemed to take my odd appearance for granted fortunately and, armed with refreshing fluid, I parked the car and eventually climbed back into bed as the first signs of dawn appeared in the eastern sky, a somewhat disappointed but perhaps rather relieved ufologist.

Interestingly enough I had seen no satellites during my sojourn but a quick glance at the official predictions showed that Echo I had been visible earlier in the night, but had moved too far to the west, while Echo II was in southbound transit and hence was eclipsed in the earth's shadow.

Looking back now I am glad I made the trip; it was an adventure, but the vigil was not one which I could recommend to anyone of a nervous disposition.

UNIDENTIFIED SATELLITES

United States authorities disclosed on November 1st that three unidentified satellites were orbiting the earth. They were thought to be fragments of rockets or captured meteoroids.

(Liverpool Daily Post 2/11/66, Daily Express 2/11/66. Credit: Miss M.P.Black)

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R E C E N T L A N D I N G R E P O R T S

FRANCE Rebouillon (Var) July 17th, 1966 03.45

The three witnesses were travelling to Draguignan by car when they sighted a UFO shortly after passing the Rebouillon cross-roads (Rebouillon is about 6 km. NW of Draguignan, on Route Nationale 155).

The UFO was about 300 metres away from them when they first saw it. It was moving rapidly and had two lights whose beams were apparently soft, but not diffused.

When the driver stopped the car to observe the object, it almost stopped and the lights were extinguished.

The "saucer," which was light-coloured (dull, metallic grey, according to the newspaper "Nice-Matin") was pitching and turning in total silence. Three or four illuminated portholes were visible about half way up the body of the craft. When it stabilized itself, lights came on underneath it. A brighter part, like a metallic plume, curved upwards from the side of the craft.

Dogs were barking and howling in the countryside. The witnesses turned back along the road to find a nearer observation point, but the UFO disappeared when they had gone a short distance. (Credit: "Phenomenes Spatiaux" September 1966)

FRANCE Montsoreau (M. et L.) July 28th, 1966 22.45

The two witnesses, M. and Mme. Lacoste, were exploring a piece of land they had bought at Montsoreau, when Mme. Lacoste suddenly saw a red ball in the sky, which she at first thought to be a meteor, but the nearer the ball came to the ground, the more blinding became its light. The object landed, then took off again and hovered at several metres above the ground for several moments, then climbed. It was about 300 or 400 metres away from the witnesses.

The witnesses got into their car in order to drive nearer to the object but it went out of sight behind a wood. They saw its light behind the trees, then nothing. The observation had lasted for about 3 or 4 minutes. The object was also seen from the nearby hamlet of Momoniere de Montsoreau.

The following Sunday, a M. Alain Rouiller discovered in a wheatfield at the place where the object had apparently landed, a well-defined square of flattened wheat, measuring 2.5 x 3 metres. (Credit: Phenomenes Spatiaux September 1966)

OHIO, U.S.A. on highway U.S. 224, between Randolph and Atwater
April 1966

Two police officers, Dale Spaur and Barney Neff were driving in their patrol car, heading east along U.S. 224 between Randolph and Atwater when they spotted a red and white 1959 Ford beside the road. They stopped to check it. The car was filled with walkie-talkies and other radios. A strange emblem was painted on the side. It was a triangle with a bolt of lightning inside it. Above the emblem was written "Seven steps to hell."

Suddenly Spaur heard a humming sound behind him. He turned and saw a huge, saucer-shaped craft rising out of a woods. The entire underside of the craft was gleaming with an intense purplish-white light. Spaur called to Barney who turned, saw the craft, then stood paralyzed. Neither moved. Spaur was sure that he could not move. The UFO rose to about 150 feet and moved directly over the patrol car. Both men felt heat streaming from the bottom of the craft. Its light was so intense that their eyes watered.

Spaur thought of moving back to the car, but something seems to tell him that if he touches it, it will disappear. Then the UFO moved away from the car and stopped. The men raced back to their patrol car and reported the sighting by radio. The officers ~~xxxx~~ were ordered to shoot at it, but felt that they could not do so. The UFO was about 50 feet across and about 15 to 20 feet high. On top of it was a large dome. An antenna jutted out from the rear part of the dome. On the orders of the night sergeant they proceeded to chase the craft. They followed it, at speeds of up to 100 miles per hour,

racing eastwards through Ohio and into Pennsylvania. The craft seemed to be letting Spaur follow it. It waited for him at crossroads. Finally, after sunrise, the chase ended near Pittsburgh, when Spaur ran out of petrol.

After his experience, Spaur became a nervous wreck. His marriage broke up, after he gave up his job of deputy sheriff and went to live in a motel in Solon, Ohio. Others involved in this incident were somewhat similarly affected.

(The Sunday Home News, New Brunswick, N.J., 9/10/66. Credit: Belgian Interplanetary Studycircle)

UFO LANDING REPORTS - Investigation, Research and Hypotheses

The Humanoids In Flying Saucer Review's special issue, "The Humanoids," Mr Charles Bowen gives details of British landing and occupant reports. Just for the record we mention here three other British incidents.

First, a contactee story. A man claimed to have been picked up by a "space vehicle" on the top of Helsby Hill, Frodshan, Cheshire, one night in November 1959. (1) He claimed that the spacemen were golden skinned and about 5 ft. 2 in. tall. They took him up to a "mother ship" which took him to the planet "Shebic." He was returned the next night to Moore, a few miles away.

At about 04.00 in the morning of August 16th, 1955, a Mr Ernest Suddards, lorry driver, accompanied by his 13 year old son, was driving down Roundhill Street, Bradford, Yorkshire, when the two of them suddenly saw something in the glare of the headlights. (2) Mr Suddards described it as being like a boy, 4 ft. tall, dressed in skin tight black clothes, arms down by sides and feet together. It jumped, in jerky movements, both feet together and seemed dazzled by the headlights. Shining in the headlamps was a circular, silvery disc, perforated with holes and situated just below the throat of the being. The thing moved forward a few yards, then turned abruptly into a passageway.

Mr Suddards later claimed to have met a Mr Joseph Wood, who told him of seeing a strange object in a field. The investigator of Mr Suddards' story, Mr Jack Ibson, called on Mr Wood, who described how he was taking a short cut near Bowling Park, on August 19th (1955) at about 23.30, when he saw, reflecting a nearby street lamp, a bright silver bullet-shaped object, standing upright behind a small hill-ock. He estimated the height as about 12 ft. and the diameter as about 4 or 5 feet.

From it was coming a high-pitched buzzing noise - like a radio set out of order. Mr Wood hurried away as fast as he could, but passed there again on his return journey (he had been visiting a friend) and the object was still there.

(References: 1. Flying Saucer Review, Vol. 6, No.2.

2. Flying Saucer News, Autumn 1955)

Northwich Mystery

A man phoned the police on the evening of December 6th, to say that he had seen a flying saucer about 300 feet above the ground, at Barnton, Northwich, Cheshire. The UFO was described as crescent shaped, with portholes." It made no noise. (Daily Mail, 7/12/66)

A UFO sighting on December 3rd is described on page 2.

Since page 2 was typed, we have learned that the police have been conducting an investigation into the December 4th meteor. A police constable, who observed it from Neston, Wirral, said that it was not over the Irish Sea, as indicated by other reports, but was in the direction of Northwich. The police were evidently not satisfied with the meteor explanation. It is interesting to speculate on a possible connection between this incident and the two Northwich sightings.

BOOKS

FLYING SAUCERS - SERIOUS BUSINESS by Frank Edwards Lyle Stuart,
New York 5.95 dollars.

Readers of this book will no doubt be struck by the similarity of its style and approach to that of Keyhoe. Frank Edwards evidently shares the preoccupation of many American ufologists with the attitudes of the U.S. Air Force and its apparent suppression of interesting UFO information.

Although the book inevitably contains much material already familiar to most ufologists there are some fascinating chapters, including one about events in the Soviet Union.

Apparently, in 1965 there was a large-scale UFO flap in the Kazakstan area of the Soviet Union. Official silence on the subject was interpreted by the people there as a sign of official impotence and wild rumours began to spread. Eventually the authorities were forced to act. A study of Russian publications has revealed that Russia and the United States use similar techniques for dealing with the UFO problem and public reactions to it.

The author deals very well with one of the favourite replies of astronomers when confronted with questions on UFOs. This is, of course, the assertion that no professional astronomer has ever seen a flying saucer. Mr Edwards debunks this one by producing an impressive list of astronomers who have admitted seeing UFOs.

In his concluding chapter Mr Edwards seems to support the ideas of NICAP on UFOs. Apparently we are now witnessing the sixth phase of a seven phase programme of the UFOs - the appearance to the greatest number of people to demonstrate both the presence and lack of hostility of the UFOs. The seventh phase is supposed to be "Overt Landing," or deliberate contact and is expected within a few years. Well, we shall just have to wait and see!

INCIDENT AT EXETER by John G. Fuller G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York
5.95 dollars

In September 1965, journalist John G. Fuller, having noticed an unusually large number of well-documented UFO reports among his press cuttings, decided that it would be interesting to track down a single good UFO report and find out the truth behind it. He finally settled on the famous Exeter, New Hampshire, sighting of September 3rd, 1965, witnessed by two police patrolmen and others.

He went to New Hampshire and investigated this and other sightings. His account in this book gives a vivid impression of what it's like to be around when a large-scale local flap is in progress. The number and quality of the witnesses and the consistency of their stories were impressive.

Fuller noticed that many of the low level sightings took place near high tension power lines. It has since been suggested by some scientists that the UFOs were a form of ball lightning, somehow generated by the powerful current in the cables. Anyone who reads the detailed reports in this book will find this explanation rather unconvincing.

MORE SIGHTINGS AT WANAUKE RESERVOIR

In early October of this year there were several sightings of UFOs in the vicinity of Wanauke Reservoir, New Jersey, U.S.A.

The sightings were reported by policemen and local residents. The objects were described as saucer shaped, glowing with various colours. Some of them manoeuvred low over the water of the reservoir. Wanauke police said that they had received numerous reports of UFOs in the area during the past two years.

(Atlantic City Press, New Jersey, 12/10/66; The Daily Home News, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 14/10/66. Credit: Belgian Interplanetary Studycircle)

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M U F O R G N E W S

Northern Conference MUFORG has agreed to organize the 1967 BUFORA Northern Conference.

Meetings From January, 1967, MUFORG meetings will be held fortnightly, instead of monthly as at present.

It pays to advertise At the November meeting it was announced that 30 replies had been received in response to an advertisement in the Liverpool Echo. Five new members attended the meeting. More new members and prospective members attended the December meeting.

Vice-chairman Mr Alan Rawlinson was elected Vice-chairman at the Group's December meeting.

NEXT MEETING of the Merseyside UFO Research Group will take place on Wednesday, January 11th, 1967, at the Free Church Centre, Tarleton Street, Liverpool, commencing at 8.0 p.m.

M U F O R G B u l l e t i n

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CONTRIBUTIONS Articles, comments, reviews, press cuttings welcome. When writing letters to the Editor, please indicate if they are intended for publication. Contributions published in this Bulletin are the responsibility of their respective authors and do not necessarily represent the views or policies of MUFORG.

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EXCHANGES Exchanges welcome. If your group does not have a regular publication, we suggest that one of your members could perhaps correspond with our Group. Please do not forget to inform us of any changes of address.

DISTRIBUTION MUFORG members and UFO organizations in Britain, U.S.A. and Western Europe.

December 1966

1967 Meetings: MUFORG meetings have so far been arranged for the following dates in 1967:- 11th January, 8th February, 8th March, 12th April, 10th May, 14th June and 12th July.
